

SENATE BILL 2314

By Herron

AN ACT to name a bridge spanning the Obion River on State Route 118 in Weakley County in honor of the late Herman Neal Walker.

WHEREAS, from time to time, the members of this General Assembly have seen fit to name certain highways and bridges to honor the memory of those exemplary citizens who contributed significantly to the moral and social fabric of their respective communities; and

WHEREAS, no Tennessean is more deserving of this honor than the late Herman Neal Walker, a man of character whose word was his bond; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Walker was also a great humanitarian; he was always available to lend a helping hand to the less fortunate in the Latham community, and his compassion and generosity knew no bounds; and

WHEREAS, an honest, hard working man of integrity, Mr. Walker worked multiple jobs to clothe, feed, and educate his seven children; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Walker often hunted and fished on a certain segment of the Obion River near the Latham community, not for sporting pleasure, but rather to help feed his family and his neighbors who were in need; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly wishes to name a certain bridge spanning the Obion River in this area to honor his memory and to permanently commemorate Mr. Walker's life of purpose and commitment; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the bridge spanning the North Fork of the Obion River on State Route 118 between Latham and Dukedom in Weakley County is hereby designated the "Herman Neal Walker Memorial Bridge" as a

lasting tribute to an accomplished human being who was much beloved by his family, friends, colleagues, and neighbors.

SECTION 2. The department of transportation is directed to erect suitable signs or to affix suitable markers designating the bridge described in Section 1 as the "Herman Neal Walker Memorial Bridge" .

SECTION 3. The erection of such signs shall be within the guidelines prescribed by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

SECTION 4. This act shall become operative only if the federal highway administrator advises the commissioner of transportation in writing that the provisions of this act shall not render Tennessee in violation of federal laws and regulations and subject to penalties prescribed therein.

SECTION 5. This act shall become operative only if the cost of the manufacture and installation of such signs is paid to the department of transportation from non-state funds within one (1) year of the effective date of this act. Such payment shall be made prior to any expenditure by the state for the manufacture or installation of such signs. The department shall return any unused portion of the estimated cost to the person or entity paying for such signs within thirty (30) days of the erection of such signs. If the actual cost exceeds the estimated cost, an amount equal to the difference in such costs shall be remitted to the department in non-state funds within thirty (30) days of the sponsoring person or entity receiving an itemized invoice of the actual cost from the department.

SECTION 6. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.